GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:136
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2003
RESTRICTIONS OVER EXPERIMENTS ON ANIMALS
ASHOK KUMAR PATEL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to restrictions over experiments conducted on animals manufacture of medicines of dangerous diseases at cheaper prices is becoming difficult;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to reconsider the removal of above restrictions;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a)to(d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 136 FOR 26.2.2003

The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960 does not prohibit the use of animals for conducting experiments on animals for bio-medical research. However, certain provisions of the Rules, framed under Section 17 of the Act are adversely affecting Bio-Medical Research. They are enumerated as under:-

i) Procurement of animals only from breeders.
ii) Not allowing import of animals required for research.
iii) Banning contract research.
iv) Prior permission of Committee for the purpose of control and supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA) needed for all experiments including diagnostic testing activities and the time taken in obtaining the permission.

All the issues relating to role of CPCSEA on medical research and amendments to rules, procedures etc. that may be needed, have been taken up with Committee of Secretaries.